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HELMS SAYS CIADIDN'T BUG DNC

Former CIA Direcor Richard Helms said yesterday the agency had nothing to do with the bugging and wiretapping of Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate.

He said two former CIA agents who participated in the raid, E. Howard Hunt Jr. and James W. McCord Jr., were no longer connected with the intelligence organization, and that "I have no control over anyone who left."

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He told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, when Chairman J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., asked him about the Watergate case, that "they both have been retired at least two years."

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Helms, being succeeded at the CIA, appeared yesterday at the confirmation hearing on his nomination to be ambassador to Iran.